



**CONTACT ELEMENTS**

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1438224 Contact element RINGSDORFF- WERKE GmbH 10 June 1974 [9 June 1973] 25723/74

Heading H2E [Also in Division C7] A contact element comprises graphite particles, preferred size range 0.01 to 0.15 mm., with a coating of metal, e.g. Cu or Ag preferably one tenth to one twentieth of particle size in thickness and 10 to 60% of weight of contact element, compressed to shape and heated in an inert or reducing atmosphere to at least partially sinter the metal coating. The metal preferably contains up to 1% by weight of one or more of the elements Cu, Al, Si, Mn, Fe, Zn, Mo, Ag, Cd, Sn or Pb and/or their oxides or sulphides to improve sintering. The coated particles may be mixed with carbon and/or graphite in powdered form and/or inorganic lubricant and polishing substances, e.g. molybdenum disulphide, cadmium sulphide and vitreous substances e.g. glass powder, as well as possibly metal powder, and/or a binder, e.g. a curable synthetic resin, prior to sintering. The metal coating may be applied by electroplating or electroless metallization or by vapour-coating in a fluidized bed.

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